

## The Progressive Farmer.

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Raleigh, N. C.

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The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' Association and N. C. State Farmers' Alliance, and the Virginia State Farmers' Alliance.

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## A WORD FOR THE CAUSE.

## Educate, Educate, Educate!

An army, to be efficient, must be organized. It must be made up of companies, battalions, regiments, brigades, divisions and corps. But this is not enough. These subdivisions must be drilled—not separately and differently, but all exactly alike, so that when massed together, they can all be wielded by one command, by one word, by one man.

So with the Farmers' Alliance. It is not enough to organize into Subordinate, County, State and National bodies. It is not enough to subscribe to certain principles, or to assume certain obligations. These bodies must be educated—drilled, to act together. There is nothing compulsory about it, but it is truly a volunteer army. We may have a true and loyal and active Sub Alliance, or a strong and efficient and zealous County Alliance, but it is not enough. There must be the most harmonious, as well as the most thorough, co-operation between all these subdivisions of our grand army. We must act together and alike.

To do this, we must be educated alike—think alike. To do this we must read alike. To do this we must have our own papers and read them. Brother, THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is your paper. It advocates your rights and your interests. It has the warm endorsement of our State Alliance. Thousands of good men and women all over the State honor it with their cordial support and generous confidence. We believe we may safely assert that there is little apathy, indifference or lukewarm Alliance blood where it is read. We believe we may justly claim that it has done much towards inspiring the order with hope and courage; towards securing that unity and harmony of action and of thought which give us such strength in North Carolina. We believe none will deny that it has done more to excite and stimulate enquiry and investigation, among our masses, as to the great questions and problems in which they are so vitally interested, than perhaps any other agency. We are proud in the belief that it has, "without variableness or shadow of turning," at all times, sought to inculcate the principles of truth and justice. It has not pandered to vitiated sentiment or tastes. It has been as true and as faithful to the great principles of our noble order as it was capable. Is it not worthy your support and your encouragement? Should you be satisfied with simply your subscription to it? Do you not know a neighbor or brother, who does not read it? Can you not prevail with him to subscribe? Have you ever tried it? Do you believe the paper could be improved? Do you believe that it is devoted to principles and to a cause that is just and right? Has the paper accomplished good? Will you not aid us in making it a better paper? Will you not aid us in enlarging its influence and usefulness? This appeal, good brother, is not to your neighbor, but it is to you. How many in your Alliance should take it and read it? Will you not ascertain at your next meeting?

Come to our help in building up our great and glorious cause. Are there not two thousand members in our order in the State who will undertake to send us a club of five by the first of November? This would only be one volunteer friend from each Subordinate and each County Alliance in the State. Can we not find one in each Alliance who will undertake it? Are there not ten thousand members in the State who could easily

send us one or two? The larger the subscription the more influential and the more powerful your paper becomes and the better enabled we become to improve it. Shall we have your help? We are not satisfied with our work. There are fifty thousand members of our order in the State who should read it every week. Could they spend the small sum required to get it, in any way that would bring them a larger return? Brethren "take the case" and submit it to your brethren at your next meeting and let us hear your verdict.

## OUR COTTON EXCHANGES AND THE FARMERS.

REPRESENTATIVES of the leading American cotton exchanges met in New Orleans on the 11th inst. and decided that on and after the 1st of October a deduction of twenty-four pounds should be made on all bales of cotton wrapped in jute bagging and sixteen pounds for all bales covered in cotton bagging. In other words, cotton shall hereafter be sold at net weight. Until recently the great majority of cotton planters of the South were not aware that they actually received nothing for their bagging and ties. This wrong is now corrected in so far that the farmer may know exactly what he is selling and what he is receiving for it. It places cotton and jute bagging on their merit and it is for the South to say which it shall use. It has already decided the question. After 1889, the cotton crop of the South will be wrapped in cotton covering. This is a great victory for the Alliance, but to make it complete and permanent, every bale, possible, of the present crop should be wrapped in cotton. In this connection we may mention the contemptible methods adopted by certain friends and tools of the Trust, for fighting us. We are in receipt of a letter from a friend in Charleston, who says that he was made to "boil over" in witnessing what he believed was a deliberate plot for bringing cotton bagging into disrepute. In unloading cotton covered with both cotton and jute, he noticed that the hands would seize the cotton bagging with their hooks in the roughest manner, pull it, twist and jerk it with all their power, and that they could not have handled it more roughly if they had made a contract to do so and he intimated clearly his opinion that such was the case.

There is a large jute mill in Charleston and we have noticed that the largest paper of that city is by no means favorable to cotton bagging. Charleston may yet see the day when it will be glad to get cotton in cotton bagging. Fortunately for the farmer he can soon place himself in position where he will sell and deliver his cotton in his own yard if he shall so choose.

In the meeting of the exchanges referred to, was a scene as rare as it was significant. It was the presence of representatives of the Alliance—genuine live farmers—who were invited and welcomed by the exchange. The cotton farmer will be recognized hereafter in the management of this great Southern crop and it will be all the better for him, for the dealers, the manufacturers, and the South.

THE GREATEST TRUST OF ALL. ANY and all influences are to be deprecated which tend to lessen the fealty of the citizen to the government, or which impairs his respect for or confidence in the constituted authorities.

Has not the financial policy of our government alienated the people? Has it not operated seriously against the industrial and wealth producing classes? When it charters thousands of National Banks and loans them money at one per cent and allows them to charge the industrial and business interests of the country enormous and ruinous rates of interest, how can it claim the heart-allegiance of its citizens? When it makes it possible for a few of its citizens—the wealthy few, to invest in its bonds and thereby elude the tax collector, while the multitudes many have to contribute their full share to the support of the government, how can we expect anything but discontent among the people? We have trusts and trusts, but the greatest of all these is the money trust—the National Banking system of the government. But the people are beginning to think.

## THE FAYETTEVILLE CELEBRATION.

THE one hundredth anniversary of the adoption by North Carolina of the Constitution of the United States, will be celebrated in the town of Fayetteville, on the 21st of November next. The local committees are working very earnestly, but North Carolina should not allow that good town and its good people to bear all the burdens of an occasion in which every town, township and county, and every patriotic citizen, is or should be equally interested. Fayetteville will do her full duty and she will do it well and nobly. An immense crowd will be present. Senator Ransom will deliver the oration, and ex-President Jefferson Davis, will be present. Let everybody go. Rates very cheap on the railroads.

## THE WAY IT WORKS.

OUR able contemporary the Wilmington Messenger, loyal and true to the farmers' interests, confesses to perplexity and calls on THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for light. Our esteemed Bro. Kingsbury has been reading certain prominent Southern journals on the bagging trouble and in the great charity of his good heart, he assumes that they are "Southern labor papers," while they omit no opportunity to give "aid and comfort to the enemy," the Bagging Trust. From an Alliance standpoint, a Southern paper cannot be loyal to the South while aiding this conspiracy to oppress and rob the Southern farmers. There are a few prominent journals in the South that have been double-faced and deceptive to the farmers in all this contest. With loud protestations of devotion and affection, they imprint on his cheek a kiss, while they stab him in the ribs.

The Messenger quotes from the comments of the Memphis Appeal on the action of the meeting of the American cotton exchanges on the 11th inst. fixing a definite tare for jute and cotton bagging, in which the Appeal says, among other very silly things: "Why the planters should make a clean gift of twenty-four pounds of jute covered cotton, and sixteen pounds of cotton covered cotton to the manufacturers, we cannot see."

And how any paper having any claim to ordinary intelligence, should have thus exposed its utter ignorance of a subject it would presume to discuss, we cannot see. We are charitable enough to ascribe it to ignorance, for we could not believe that the Appeal would wilfully and knowingly make an assertion so utterly untrue and groundless.

The exchanges proposed to buy cotton at net weight—the only fair, just and honest way to buy it, and the honest farmers agreed to it. They agreed further that a proper and fair deduction for the jute bagging and ties on the bale would be twenty-four pounds, and for cotton bagging and ties on the bale, would be sixteen pounds. This places the cotton, or light bagging, on a fair and equitable footing with the jute, or heavy bagging. Hitherto this was not the case. The farmer was being unmercifully swindled in the matter of tare in the Liverpool market. But until recently not one in a thousand knew it. Indeed they thought that they were selling the bagging and ties at the same price at which they sold the cotton, when in truth not only was their actual weight deducted, but more. Years ago, when our farmers used, almost universally, heavy weight bagging, the Liverpool Exchange fixed the tare at six per cent. of gross weight of bale. This was fair when the bales averaged in weight four hundred pounds. But how did it work? At that time, ginners charged two dollars for bagging and ties per bale, but competition among the ginners reduced the price until it got as low as one dollar, and of course with this decline in price, was a decline in the weight of bagging used because it was cheaper. Then there was a constant demand with exporters and shippers that the bales should be increased in weight until now our bales average nearly five hundred pounds. So that now a farmer sells a bale weighing five hundred pounds wrapped in light bagging—weighing, say, eighteen pounds, when it reaches Liverpool is subject to a deduction of six per cent., or thirty pounds, and the Liverpool dealer gets the extra twelve pounds free of charge. The farmer wants to stop this filching. He wants justice. He wants pay for the cotton he sells. So that whether we use a yard of cotton bagging or not, the action of the New Orleans meeting in establishing the rule that all cotton should be sold at net weight, is right and fair, and just and equitable, and the farmer is the gainer by it. But it was a great victory for the farmer, in that it was a recognition of cotton bagging, and placed it squarely on its merits in the markets of the world, and this recognition assures its universal and permanent adoption as a covering for cotton. And this is the great object sought to be reached by the Alliance and the farmers of the South.

## STATE ALLIANCE RESOLUTIONS.

The following are among the resolutions which were adopted by the State Alliance at its recent session:

## DIRECTOR OF STATE AND COUNTY OFFICERS.

Resolved, That the State Secretary be and he is hereby directed to publish a list of the County Secretaries, County Business Agents, and State officers, and forward to the County Secretaries, to be kept strictly as Alliance property.

## COTTON SEED NOT LESS THAN TWENTY CENTS PER BUSHEL.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this State Alliance that no farmer should sell his cotton seed for less than twenty-five cents per bushel, unless it be to mills not controlled by trusts.

## THE ALLIANCE TO BE HEARD HEREAFTER.

Resolved, That all demands for political legislation be submitted to

the Subordinate Alliances for ratification.

Resolved, That the State Executive Committee be and it is hereby instructed to provide suitable methods for carrying into effect the above resolutions, and also plans by which our order may enforce its demands.

## CO-OPERATION OF COUNTIES IN HANDLING COTTON.

In consideration of the short time now at the disposal of the State Alliance for devising and maturing a system for the handling of the present crop, we recommend the following:

1. That the Subordinate and County Alliances adopt such plans for disposing of the cotton crop as may best be suited to their various sections.

2. That in making any arrangement we would advise the co-operation of as many counties as practicable, who may have a common market, and that they observe as nearly as practicable the plan recommended by the National Alliance at its last meeting.

3. That our State Executive Committee take into consideration a plan for the handling of our cotton crop, and report the same to the next annual meeting of this State Alliance.

## THE ALLIANCE SHOULD SUPPORT ITS ORGANS.

WHEREAS, Our worthy President, Bro. S. B. Alexander, and Bro. C. W. Macune, our National President, have frequently advised the members of our order to subscribe for and read and circulate our organ, THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER; therefore be it

Resolved, That we give our organ our hearty support, and do hereby urge the officers of our Sub-Alliances, and all lecturers, to impress upon our membership the absolute importance of supporting our organ, THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

Resolved, That we cordially and heartily commend also the National Economist, our National organ, to the generous support of the brotherhood.

## PATRONIZE ALLIANCE TOBACCO MANUFACTURERS AND WAREHOUSES.

WHEREAS, An attempt has been or is being made to organize a trust on manufactured tobacco; therefore be it

Resolved, That this State Alliance do recommend to all members of the Alliance to use only the tobacco manufactured by members of our order; and further, that we recommend the same tobacco to the public generally.

Resolved, That we recommend that members of the Alliance raising tobacco sell the same in Alliance tobacco warehouses, whenever such are accessible.

## OUR SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

Resolved, That in creating the important office of Secretary of Agriculture by the Congress of the United States, we, the farmers of the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance, accept it as a just recognition of the dignity and importance of the great agricultural interests of the country and a long-delayed recognition of our just rights.

Resolved, That the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance tenders to Secretary Rusk its appreciation of his prompt action, on our behalf, in the matter of securing for the cotton farmers a just and equitable tare in foreign markets.

## FERTILIZERS AND CONVICT LABOR.

WHEREAS, The question of fertilizers is of vast importance to the farmers of the State:

Resolved, That the Executive Committee of the Farmers' State Alliance be instructed to inquire into the feasibility of utilizing the convict labor of the State in the manipulation and manufacture of a standard fertilizer under the supervision and control of our agricultural department.

Resolved, If thought to be practicable, that the committee shall formulate some plan and memorialize our next Legislature to pass such laws as may be needed to accomplish the object aimed at.

## THE ALLIANCE WILL STAND BY ITS PRINCIPLES.

Resolved, That we will give our support or patronage to no manufacturing company or wholesale house who will not deal with our agents, and that we will give those houses the preference who are willing to deal direct with us.

## THE JUTE BAGGING TRUST—AN ENGINE OF OPPRESSION, DESIGNED TO CHEAT, OPPRESS AND FRAUD.

WHEREAS, It was resolved by the Convention of the National Alliance and Wheel, held in the city of Birmingham on the 16th of May, 1889, to adopt the permanent use of cotton bagging as covering for cotton; and whereas, it was further resolved that we adopt such measures as might be deemed proper to carry into effect the action of said Convention; and whereas, the action of said Birmingham Convention has been approved and ratified by the N. C. Farmers' State Alliance at its present session; therefore be it

Resolved, That we do pledge ourselves to stand to and abide by the action in this respect, both of the National and State Alliance.

Resolved, That we pledge ourselves not to use at any time or in any way, new or unused jute bagging as covering for our cotton, and in such cases where cotton bagging cannot be obtained in sufficient quantity to supply

our wants, that we will use some other covering—always adhering to our pledge, never, under any circumstances, to resort to the use of new or unused jute bagging.

Resolved, That we call upon all our farmers and all good men throughout the land, to aid and support us in this effort to break up and put down this iniquitous fraud, known as "Jute Bagging Trust."

Resolved, That we again denounce and condemn this Jute Bagging Trust as an engine of oppression, designed to cheat, oppress and defraud our people.

Resolved, That we declare our judgment to be, that any member of the Alliance wilfully using jute bagging is guilty of conduct unbecoming an Alliance man; and we recommend that any brother so offending, and upon conviction of such offence, should be suspended or expelled from the order.

## POPPING AT THE RAILROADS.

WE are gratified to see a flutter among our papers on the alleged discriminations in freight rates by the R. & D. R. R. system. The News and Observer and other papers say that freights on cotton from Raleigh to the cotton mills west of us have been increased and that rates on the manufactured goods from the mills to the Northern markets have been reduced. That this is a discrimination against Raleigh, etc. Same old game! Same old story! The cities and mills and papers get into a big row over discriminations in freights when the truth is, the farmers are footing the bill. As in the present case, the rates are increased on cotton shipped from Raleigh to Haw river or Salem. Who pays it? Who is the sufferer? The farmer, the man who produces it, because this increase in cost of transportation is taken from the price when it is bought from the farmer. The News and Observer calls upon the Raleigh Cotton Exchange and the Chamber of Commerce to "investigate the whole subject." Yes, and be laughed at by the railroads! The thing to do, Bro. Ashe, is for the News and Observer, the city of Raleigh, and the mills, to join hands with THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and the farmers and business men of the State, and establish a railroad commission in this State that can and will keep all these matters regulated. Will they do it?

## RALEIGH TOBACCO MARKET.

GOOD sales at all the warehouses last week and prices satisfactory. The large sale at the Farmers' Alliance Warehouse on Friday was unanimously voted a big success. The immense floor was covered and the prices averaged about \$25 per hundred. We talked with a number of the farmers and they expressed themselves as well pleased with the prices. Raleigh is in the center of the finest tobacco lands in the world—she has good warehouses well managed and active, nifty buyers and who pay good prices. We noticed several buyers from other markets on the floor.

Another big special sale at the Capital Alliance Warehouse on next Friday, the 27th inst.

## IMPORTANT TO THE ALLIANCE.

LET every President and Secretary of each Subordinate and County Alliance be sure to meet at the county site on the 28th inst. as matters of vital importance will demand their attention on that day. Let none fail to attend. And before you start, refer to your Constitution and read Article X. Let the County President have this article read at the opening of the meeting and let every man in the order stand by it and enforce it.

## ALLIANCE MASS MEETING.

AN Alliance Mass Meeting will be held in Raleigh on Wednesday night, the 16th of October (Fair week) at 8 o'clock sharp. Prominent Alliance men from this and other States will be present and important matters will be considered. Let every Alliance man attend, who can.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

\*The farmers were delighted with the prices obtained last Friday at the special semi-annual sale at the Capital Tobacco Warehouse.

\*We learn that there are 189 students at Wake Forest. We are gratified to learn that all our colleges and schools have opened up finely this fall.

\*We verily believe that the State Fair of 1889 will be the most interesting and the largest ever held. Everybody who can, should attend and bring their families.

\*The tenth Annual Fair of the Roanoke District Grange will be held on the grounds at Woodland, Oct. 9th, 10th and 11th. The Roanoke District Grange originated this Fair and it has been successfully conducted under the auspices of that body. It is one of the few Fairs where no intoxicants, gamblers or swindlers are admitted. It is a noble body of men

and they have done a good work for that section, and we wish them the most abundant success.

\*A new feature in the conduct of our State Fair, and one which will be appreciated by the public, is allowing exhibitors to sell any articles on exhibition during the Fair.

\*"Bellford's," for October, will contain, besides its complete long novel, "The Devil's Anvil," by Mary Kyle Dallas, no less than thirty other articles; it will be the most complete and interesting number from every point yet issued.

\*THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER will have headquarters on the grounds during our State Fair, and cordially invites everybody to call. Will be open from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. each day. Look out for its sign when you enter the grounds.

\*The little advertisement of "Box 185" in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, has resulted in selling already four mowers and eighteen pulverizers—all in less than three weeks. Good goods advertised in a good paper, results in ready sales.

\*Alliance Headquarters at the State Fair will be established on the grounds, near the agricultural building, and in full view of the entrance gate. It will be in charge of the State Secretary, and he hopes to meet all the visiting brethren.

\*THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER desires to thank its friends for their liberal support. Remember, brethren, that we have been straining a point for the past few months and will need every dollar due us on the first of October. See to it that you are "clear on our books."

\*Some of our subscribers who have renewed their subscriptions, do not understand why the date on their label is unchanged. Explanation: Our supply of mailing type ran short. We, however, have a correct record of all renewals and will correct the labels as soon as our type arrives.

\*Our readers will be glad to learn that THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, through the kindness of the author, Hon. W. L. Wilson, of West Virginia, will reproduce the admirable and able articles from his pen, which appeared in the Baltimore Sun, and which were so favorably and warmly received by the public.

\*Brothers A. L. Harper and J. A. Whitaker, of Nash county, called on us on their return from Oxford and subscribed for their organ. They felt happy. Bro. Harper, according to the Oxford papers, sold in that market the finest tobacco ever seen there. Nash and the adjacent territory is the coming golden tobacco belt of the South.

\*Bro. E. T. Stackhouse, President of the South Carolina State Alliance, in a ringing appeal to the brethren of South Carolina to take and read their organs, says, to the editors of the Cotton Plant: "Tell our people to economize, to do without coffee and trust sugar, if necessary, to retrench anywhere and everywhere they can, but tell them they can't afford to do without the Cotton Plant and the National Economist. The Cotton Plant should go into every Alliance family and the Economist should go into every Alliance." Bro. Stackhouse can render no more valuable service to his people than to induce them to read their own papers.

\*In a business letter to the editor from one of the most intelligent men in the State, the writer says: "I know that you have your hands, your head and your heart full, and must have for some time to come. The movement in which you have taken and are taking such an active part, is growing and is going to keep on growing until some matters in this big Republic of ours are better regulated than they have been. Oh! how the assertive, imperious few have landed it over the many—how the cliques and combines have ridden over and trampled upon and dominated the patient and unpretentious people! There is grand work for you in their redemption." We believe that with opportunity comes responsibility. The one favors us, the other confronts us, and we feel that the great mass of the people realize it and will meet it as become men and patriots.

## ALLIANCE NOTES.

[Always give the name and number of your Alliance, your postoffice and your county, plainly, when you write to the President, Secretary, Trustee, Business Agent or Chairman of Executive Committee of the State Alliance.]

—1,978 Alliance organizations in North Carolina.

—Will J. H. Mayfield, A. D. Owen and Wm. R. Wiggins give us their postoffice addresses?

—Look out for Alliance Headquarters on the Fair grounds when you enter the gate and call.

—Bro. Isaiah Carroll, Secretary of South Washington Alliance, writes his Alliance will have a grand picnic at Willard, on the 25th of September, 1889. There will be able speakers in attendance, good music, refreshments, &c. All Sub-Alliances in Pender and adjoining counties are invited to be